



Docket No. 94-047-27

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: ANTHONY H. DODGE, ET AL. GAU: 1655
SERIAL NO: 09/449,204 EXAMINER: FORMAN, B.J.
FILING DATE: NOVEMBER 24, 1999
FOR: PCR ASSAY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, and to advance the prosecution thereof, please amend the above-referenced application in the following manner.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 16.

Please amend the claims as follows:

C1
17. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 23, wherein the nucleic acid detector molecule is RNA and the RNA detector molecule is reverse transcribed to form DNA before or during amplifying step d).

C2
23. (Twice Amended) A method for quantitating or detecting the presence of a target molecule in a sample which may contain the target molecule, comprising:

(a) exposing a sample which may contain the target molecule to a capture antibody or target molecule binding fragment thereof which binds to the target molecule under conditions whereby a capture antibody:target molecule complex is formed;

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